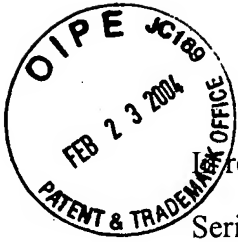


TJK/431



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARKS OFFICE

Inventor Application of: Angelo Bettinzoli

Serial No.: 10/718,100

Filed: 11/20/2003

) VARIABLE-FORCE  
) BALANCING DEVICE  
) IN PARTICULAR FOR  
) MOVABLE-AXIS HINGES  
) OF ELECTRIC HOUSEHOLD..

) Group Art Unit:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, is a Form PTO/SB/08A (substitute for form PTO-1449A/PTO) and List of Prior Art Cited by Applicant together with copies of the listed patent references.

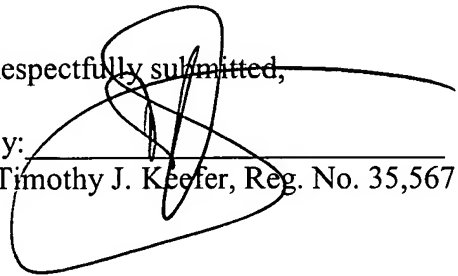
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Date: 2/18/04

Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon LLP  
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Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Timothy J. Keefer, Reg. No. 35,567

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/O8A (10-96)

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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/718,100        |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | 11/20/2003        |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Angelo Bettinzoli |
|   |   |    |   | Group Art Unit           |                   |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            |                   |
| Sheet   | 1 | Of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | TJK/431           |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                      |                                      |   |  |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|                       |                       | Number               | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |   |  |   |
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|                       | 2                     | 4,653,736            |                                      | Pontoppidan                                     | 03/31/1987                                     |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                         |                     |                                      |   |  |  |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
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|                          | 3                     | GB                      | 1,422,808           |                                      | Gronbach Wihelm                                 | 01/28/1976                                     |  |                |
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